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DCLI Annual Report 2022-2023

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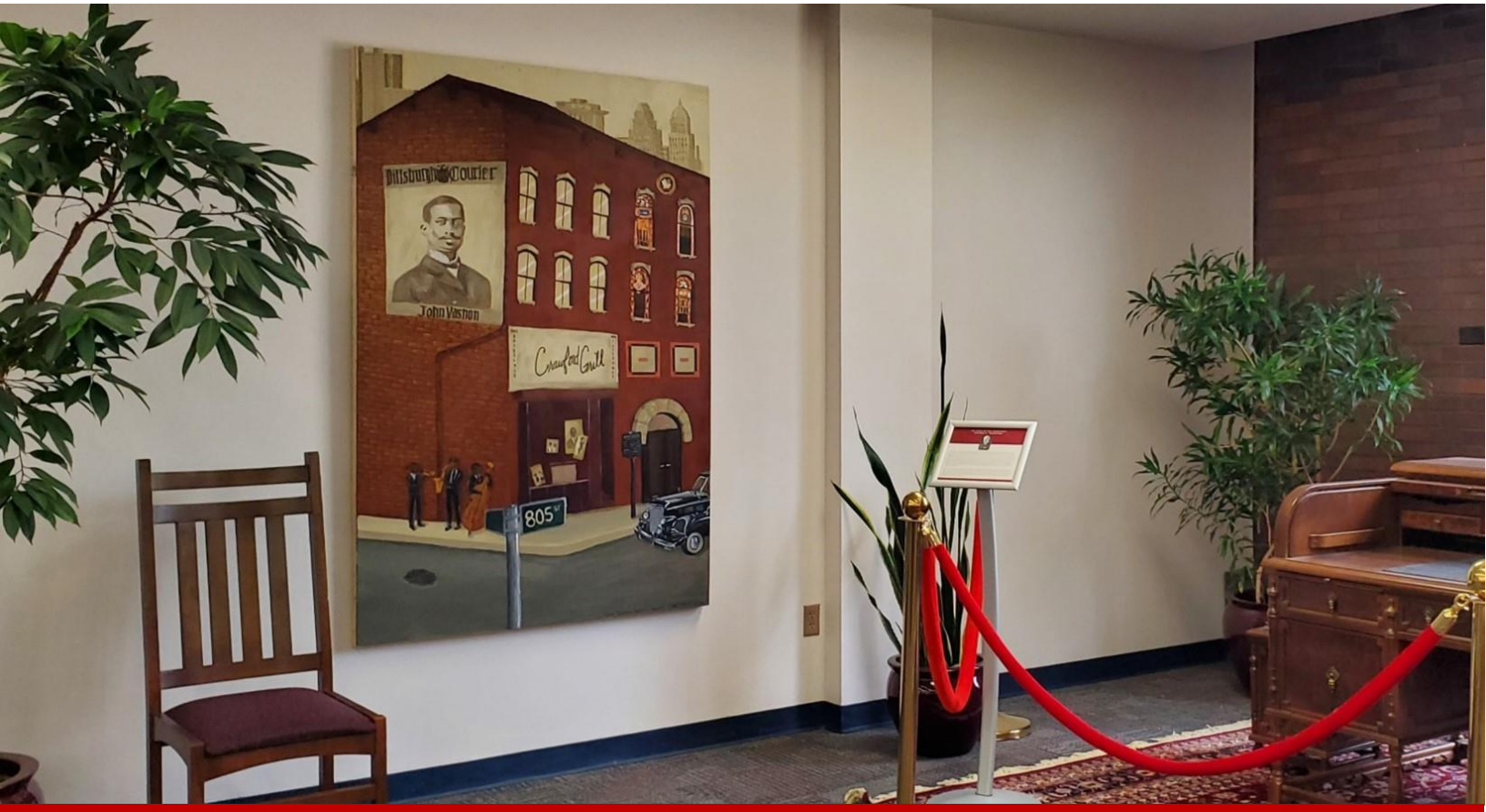


Law Library - Duquesne Center for Legal Information (DCLI) Annual Report 2022-2023

During the 2022-2023 academic year, Duquesne Center for Legal Information (DCLI) demonstrated a sustained commitment to strategic thinking, ingenuity and collaboration. Priorities included expanding outreach, services and resources while promoting the mission of the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University.

Highlights

- Launched Legal Talk Series and DCLI You Tube channel
- Facilitated scholarship communication: 87,539 downloads from Digital Commons
- Added 8344 new bibliographic records in SOLCAT
- Transitioned to a new library services platform, EBSCO FOLIO
- Increased teaching opportunities: each public services librarian taught legal research for credit (Dana taught *Climate Change Law, Research and Writing*; Chuck & Katie co-taught *Research for Law Practice)*
- The values of empathy, equity, justice and diversity permeated the library collection and services
- Expanded wellness initiatives for students, faculty and staff.

Thomas R. Kline School of Law of
Duquesne University
Duquesne Center for Legal Information
900 Locust Street Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15282
412-396-5017

dcli@duq.edu

https://www.duq.edu/law/library

COLLECTION

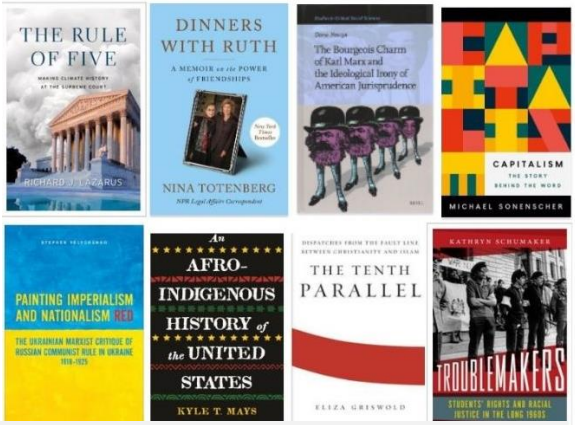
DCLI updated its Mission Statement as part of its Collection Development Policy. It showcases the Library's commitment to a diverse and inclusive collection in support of the mission of Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University and its curricular demands. The policy articulates criteria and methods to build and maintain a robust law library collection.

In late November 2022, Gumberg Library and DCLI began transitioning to the new EBSCO FOLIO library services system. FOLIO is an open-source platform created to better manage print and electronic resources and utilizes modern "app" based architecture. FOLIO went live on May 23, 2023 and the new LOCATE classic catalog on June 12.

In 2022-2023, DCLI was able to make ALL ITEMS requested by Law School Faculty *and* Students part of the permanent collection!

"I think the Center's offerings are incredibly comprehensive! I had access to every option I've ever thought of using."

(2022-2023 law student survey response)



A small selection of the **8, 344 new bibliographic records** added to the collection this year.

The top **3** Study Resource Guides Used by Law Students and Faculty:

- Legal Research Process
- Will, Trusts, and Estates Law
- Law Student Success Resources

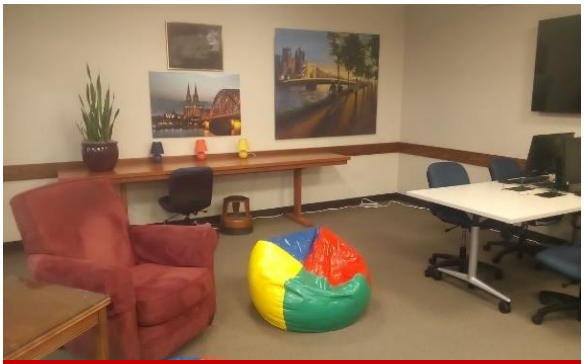
DCLI proudly provides 463 SEATS and 19 STUDY ROOMS!

SERVICES

In 2022-2023, the librarians delivered reference services in-person, by telephone, and online through dcli@duq.edu and LibChat. The library expanded its Library Guides with new topics, such as DEI and Leadership; Generative AI, and Banned Books. Faculty presentations continued on various topics, such as DCLI's role in the Duquesne Kline School of Law's legal scholarship production and dissemination.

DCLI incorporated empirical data from its semi-annual faculty and student surveys (fall and spring) to expand and evaluate its services. DCLI also met with the Student Bar Association (SBA) to hear student suggestions each semester.

Survey data shows that 89% of faculty respondents are very satisfied with the library support of faculty research and teaching with 11% mostly satisfied.



"Study rooms are the only place I take online exams anymore because DCLI has made them to be such comfortable spaces."

(2022-2023 law student survey response)

DCLI Is a Pillar of Intellectual Life

This past year, DCLI had the privilege of producing and hosting the Symposium, "The Roman Roots of American Law." Built around the Allegheny County Law Library's 1488 Justinian Codex, the symposium included faculty from the University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne Kline School of Law, Duquesne University History Department and Gumberg Library. DCLI also initiated a collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh School of Computing and Information Science to jumpstart the Allegheny County Law Libraries' rare book preservation policy.

The library space was used for experiential teaching and learning for events such as DCLI Legal Talk series, launched in fall 2022. Five Duquesne Kline School of Law professors were invited to discuss their scholarship throughout the academic year. Each Legal Talk was recorded and disseminated on DCLI's YouTube channel.

DCLI Is Sustaining Excellence in Teaching and Learning

DCLI is at the forefront of scholarly publication, through its Digital Commons, open to faculty and students alike. DCLI faculty taught classes on legal research each semester and offered research sessions to students, faculty and staff. In a first in U.S. legal education, Dana taught an experiential seminar on *Climate Change Law*. It teaches legal research and writing around doctrinal issues related to climate change adaptation, mitigation and preservation. The wellness program activities were expanded to include an organized game day, museum trips and installation of a casual art making space.

DCLI actively pursued opportunities for interdepartmental, university-wide, and intra-university collaborations. Partnerships included the Second Duquesne Kline Earth Day Celebration with the Director of Student Organizations, and a Bar Studies Game Day with the Director of the Bar Studies Program. Additionally, DCLI participated in grant opportunities benefitting the Allegheny County Community such as Elder Justice events organized by the Law School's clinics and hosted by the Allegheny County Law Library. In May, DCLI offered three one-hour Bridge-the-Gap Sessions directed to summer associates and faculty research assistants.

DCLI Is a Center of Equity and Inclusion

Under the leadership of Dean April Barton, our Duquesne community-wide anti-racism and inclusion work continued and expanded last year.

DCLI continued a multi-year collaboration with Pittsburgh's CAPA High School students. Three new paintings celebrating Pittsburgh's ethnic and racial diversity were produced and permanently installed in the library.

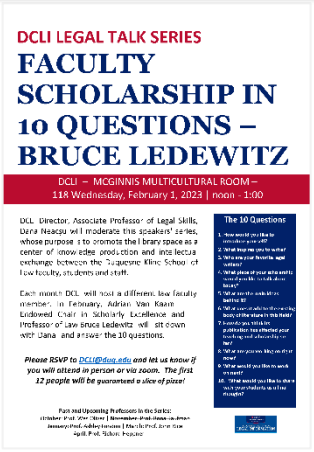
Katie created a new online research guide on equity, diversity and inclusion that features reading lists, national and local resources.

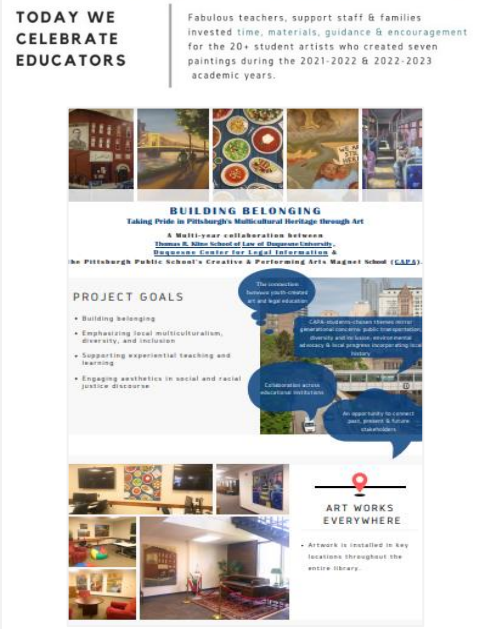
DCLI conceived, organized, produced, participated to and promoted a webinar, Building Belonging through Radical Empathy with the Office of Diversity Inclusion at Duquesne University.

Building Belonging Through Radical Empathy: A Conversation with Terri Givins, Author of "Radical Empathy"
April M. Barton, J.D., Dean and Professor of Law, Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University
Ian Edwards, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist and AVP for Student Wellbeing, Duquesne University
Terri Givens, Ph.D. Professor of Political Science at McGill University; founder Center for Higher Education Leadership and Brighter Professional Development
Crystal McCormick Ware, Inaugural Chief Diversity Officer and Senior Advisor to the President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Kim Nayyer, Edward Cornell Librarian, Associate Dean for Library Services and Professor of Practice, Cornell University
Dana Neacsu, LL.M., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Legal Skills, Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University
Akwasi Opoku-Dakwa, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Management, Duquesne University Palumbo-Donahue School of Business
Olamide Owoweye, 3L, Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University
Kaia Niambi Shivers, Ph.D., NYU Professor
Quincy Stephenson, LSW, Director of Diversity and Inclusions, Center for Excellence in Diversity and Student Inclusion

Director Dana Neacsu interviewed Professor Bruce Ledewitz in February.

(Zoom In: click on each image below)


DCLI LEGAL TALK SERIES
FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP IN 10 QUESTIONS – BRUCE LEDEWITZ
DCLI – MCGINNIS MULTICULTURAL ROOM –
118 Wednesday, February 1, 2023 | noon - 1:00
The 10 Questions


TODAY WE CELEBRATE EDUCATORS
Fabulous teachers, support staff & families invested time, materials, guidance & encouragement for the 20+ student artists who created seven paintings during the 2021-2022 & 2022-2023 academic years.
BUILDING BELONGING
Taking Pride in Pittsburgh's Multicultural Heritage through Art
PROJECT GOALS
ART WORKS EVERYWHERE

STAFF UPDATES

In April 2022, **Kathleen (Katie) Lynch**, J.D., M.L.I.S., began as the Faculty Research and Outreach Services Librarian. In addition to managing the Duquesne Legal Research Paper Series on SSRN and the Duquesne Digital Commons, Katie also co-taught the *Research for Law Practice* course during the fall and spring semesters with adjunct professor, **Charles Sprowls**. During her first full academic year at Duquesne Kline, Katie conducted several presentations and created customized online legal research videos (reaching 180 students).

DCLI's Head of Information Access and Student Services, **Chuck Sprowls**, M.L.I.S. continued to publish the *DCLIBeat* newsletter, a bi-weekly update for law students and faculty regarding DCLI programs, services and announcements while managing all facets of library facilities. Each semester, under the leadership of **Chuck Sprowls**, DCLI offered employment opportunities to Duquesne **students.** A team of 10 to 12 students provided essential operational support while developing exemplary professional skills.

As the Assistant Director for Resource Development and Metadata Services, **Amy Lovell**, M.L.S. managed the migration to EBSCO FOLIO as DCLI's representative on the FOLIO Implementation Team. Amy introduced OCLC's CatExpress to cost-effectively upload MARC records. She also assisted with the transition of Allegheny County Law Library to a new management consultant.

In May of 2023, **Annie Avondolio**, M.L.I.S. joined the staff as Evening and Weekend Supervisor and familiarized herself with DCLI collection, services, resources that support to the Law faculty, staff and students in their use of DCLI. During her first months, she provided graphic design for various digital/print projects including this *Annual Report*.

Dana Neacşu, LL.B., D.E.A., LL.M., M.L.S., Ph.D. continued her second year as DCLI and ACLL director. In Spring 2023, she taught an experiential seminar *in Climate Change Law, Research and Writing* and int the fall, she supervised Upper Level Writing. Dana Neacsu continued her service on the Law School's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee and on the AALL's SIS JEDI committee.

Continued Professional Development Remained a Priority for DCLI

Law librarians and staff participated to a variety of professional development opportunities and webinars on a wide variety of topics including: marketing, government publications, collection development and licensing, and technology engagement; Katie attended the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) in July 2022; and Dana was a panelist during WPLLA's October 2022 session on law library budgets held at Reed Smith; Amy and Katie were in attendance.

Noteworthy Achievements

Chuck Sprowls *continued to serve on the Duquesne University Senate*

Dana Neacsu *was appointed Director of the Conference of Legal Information, Scholarship and Teaching (aka "The Boulder Conference") in July 2022.*

Amy Lovell *was a member of the EBSCO FOLIO Implementation Team*

Dana Neacsu *presented at second legal information symposium "The Legal Treatise: Past, Present, and Future" sponsored by Yale University's Lillian Goldman Library on "The Persistent Treatise" with* ***Paul D. Callister*** *(University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law)*

Katie Lynch *served on the AALL's Academic Law Libraries-SIS Student Services Committee, while* ***Dana*** *continued to serve on ALL-SIS JEDI Committee.*

Dana Neacsu *was appointed to IFLA's Law Library Committee representing U.S. law school libraries for three years*

Dana also presented a paper at the 14th Annual pre-AALL Conference on Legal Information, Scholarship and Teaching (aka "The Boulder Conference"), then assumed its leadership and organized the first digital meeting in October 2022.

LOOKING AHEAD

DCLI looks forward to continuing and increasing its role

- in the faculty scholarship production and dissemination,
- in student learning and wellness activities and
- in promoting accessibility, diversity, equity, inclusion, social and racial justice.

DCLI Faculty remains committed to direct engagement with the community by providing a new asynchronous course entitled "Law Office Technology," and continuing the current teaching initiatives. DCLI's space will be further used for experiential teaching and learning: Room 130 will host Professor Wes Oliver class on coding for lawyers. DCLI plans to continue collaborations initiated in 2021-2023, including the Legal Talk Series, and the CAPA art project. DCLI will build on the current Justinian Codex preservation partnership with Gumberg Library with new literacy programs, Digital Commons developments, and the final phase of the EBSCO FOLIO transition for remote authentication of databases from EZProxy to OpenAthens.

"As DCLI prepares to welcome the new 1L class, we can begin the year ahead with a sense of optimism."